



Case Report Summary

Madison Police Department
Official Case Report

Do Not Re-Release

Print Date/Time: 06/21/2022 14:07
Login ID: pdhlr
Case Number: 2022-00209541

*MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT
ORI Number: WI0130100

Case

Case Number: 2022-00209541
Location: 2758 DAIRY DR
Madison, WI 53718
Reporting Officer ID: 4960 - SOSOKA

Incident Type: Information
Occurred From: 06/01/2022 13:00
Occurred Thru: 06/01/2022 16:00
Disposition: Closed
Disposition Date: 06/14/2022
Reported Date: 06/02/2022 09:16 Thursday

Offenses

No.	Group/ORI	Crime Code	Statute	Description	Counts
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Subjects

Type	No.	Name	Address	Phone	Race	Sex	DOB/Age
Contact	1	WILKENING, SARAH B	WAUNAKEE, WI 53597		White	Female	41

Arrests

Arrest No.	Name	Address	Date/Time	Type	Age
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Property

Date	Code	Type	Make	Model	Description	Tag No.	Item No.
06/06/2022	Evidence	CD/DVD/Flash Drive/Tapes			Milestone video	501792	1

Vehicles

No.	Role	Vehicle Type	Year Make	Model	Color	License Plate	State
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Routing:

- ☐ Animal Control
- ☐ Building Inspection
- ☐ Commitment
- ☐ DCHS
- ☐ Death Investigation
- ☐ Fire Investigation
- ☐ Non-Disclosure
- ☐ Outside LE Agency
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Traffic Engineering

01 PO SOSOKA, J/ORIG - INFORMATION**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT**

DETAIL	REPORTED DATE/TIME 06/02/2022 10:05	OCCURRED INCIDENT TYPE Information	LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE 2758 Dairy DR
	OCCURRED FROM DATE/TIME 06/01/2022 13:00	OCCURRED THRU DATE/TIME 06/01/2022 16:00	Madison, City of
	REPORTING OFFICER JESSICA SOSOKA		

NARRATIVE

Attachments: Email from the Milestone Democratic School to parents

Routing: Lt. Skenandore, Sgt. Webster

On 6/2/22 I was working in my official capacity as a City of Madison Police Officer. I was assigned to the East District. At about 10:00 AM I was directed to dispatch to contact a parent of a child that attends Milestone Democratic School at 2758 Dairy Drive in the City of Madison. The parent, who wished to remain anonymous, reported that she had received an email from the school advising that a teacher had possibly brought a gun to school. She indicated that the school implied that they had contacted the police regarding the issue, but upon contacting the City of Madison Police Department, discovered that there was no record of any such incident. This parent was particularly concerned that the police were not made aware of the issue.

I contacted the Milestone Democratic School at (608) 305-4332 and spoke with a subject who identified herself as Sarah B. Wilkening. She advised that she was the correct administrator to speak with regarding the issue described above. Wilkening told me that the school would be meeting with their attorney this evening, but she stated that she could not give me any information related to the incident prior to that meeting. I requested the name of the teacher in question, but Wilkening declined to provide me with that information at this time.

I spoke with Sgt. Webster and provided him with the aforementioned information. He advised that he would make Lt. Skenandore aware of the contact with the complainant and Ms. Wilkening. I have attached the email mentioned above to this report.

NFA

PO Jessica Sosoka 4960

bec

02 DET PETERSON - LETTER TO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/06/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE****SUMMARY:**

Contact with Sarah Wilkening

NARRATIVE:

On June 2, 2022, I was assigned to follow up on this investigation by Detective Lieutenant Jason Ostrenga. I began by reviewing the police report of Police Officer Jessica Sosoka. I noted that the main point of contact at Milestone Democratic School, Sarah Wilkening, informed P.O. Sosoka that she was going to be contacting the school's attorney to discuss disclosure of information. On June 3, 2022, while I was awaiting more information, I received an email forward from Sergeant Ron Webster with an attachment entitled 'Letter to Students and Families - 06-02-22.pdf'. That letter is included with this report as an attachment. Sergeant Webster informed me that the email forward he received was from a parent at the school who wished to remain anonymous. The attachment from the email is included as an attachment with this report.

On June 3, 2022, I was able to speak with Wilkening via telephone. Wilkening informed me that she was now formally reporting the incident to police. Wilkening said that the incident in question occurred on June 1, 2022 toward the end of the school day. Wilkening said that Milestone Democratic School ends their school day at 4 P.M. each day. I would find out later from reviewing video from the school that the backpack was removed by Wilkening from the lobby area of the building to a locked office at 2:54 P.M. Wilkening told me that a student by the name of [REDACTED] was the person that had located the staff member's bag in the lobby with the firearm in it. Wilkening said that she determined that the bag belonged to staff member Arthur Richardson. Wilkening described that bag that contained the firearm as a black, regular-sized, backpack. Wilkening said that the backpack was higher quality, and that it did not appear to be a student's bag when she picked it up.

Wilkening told me that she was not alerted directly to the bag with the firearm in it, but she was able to overhear [REDACTED] speaking to other students about the bag, and using slang terminology to refer to a weapon. Wilkening said that she then went to the lobby, located the backpack, and then removed it to a locked office. Wilkening said that she made an initial attempt to locate items in the bag that would indicate to her who it belonged to. She said that she did not find anything. Wilkening said that in looking into the bag, it was not obvious to her that there was a handgun in it, and she did not see the handgun herself.

Wilkening said that she was able to confirm with Arthur Richardson later that the bag was his. Wilkening said that Richardson removed the bag from the school, and took it out to his locked vehicle. Wilkening reported that Richardson admitted that he had taken the backpack on a trip over the past weekend, and had not realized that he had left his handgun inside of the bag. Richardson reported that the gun was kept in the bag unloaded. Richardson [REDACTED] according to Wilkening.

I asked Wilkening if there was video of the area where this incident occurred. She confirmed that there was. Wilkening advised that she had reviewed the video herself, and that she could see the position of the bag, and also that it was apparent that [REDACTED] was hovering near the bag just prior to the discovery of the handgun in the backpack. I asked Wilkening if I would be able to obtain a copy of the video. She confirmed that it could be provided to me, and offered to have me stop in to the school later that day to

**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/06/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE (continuation)**

obtain it.

Wilkening confirmed that the school had taken action to indefinitely suspend Richardson from being at the school until the incident had been investigated fully. Wilkening did say that Richardson is a highly respected staff member, and is beloved amongst the students of the school. Wilkening said that Richardson feels terribly about accidentally bringing a weapon on the premises.

Investigation continuing.

DETECTIVE JOEL PETERSON #2962

03 DET PETERSON - CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED]



MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT

CASE# 2022-00209541

CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/06/2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE

SUMMARY:

Contact with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

NARRATIVE:

On June 3, 2022, I was able to make phone contact with [REDACTED]. I had been provided [REDACTED] information by Sarah Wilkening from Milestone Democratic School. I was informed by Wilkening that [REDACTED] daughter [REDACTED] had been the student that discovered a backpack with a firearm inside of it on 6/1/22.

I spoke with [REDACTED] for a considerable amount of time about this incident. [REDACTED] was upset with the school officials for their slow or no reporting of the incident to her and other parents. [REDACTED] advised me that she had received the two emails from the school in regard to the incident, and that it was her belief that the school was trying to cover up the incident, and had now concocted a version of events that made it seem as though Arthur Richardson had accidentally had the firearm in his backpack at the school. [REDACTED] questioned how someone would not know that they had their firearm with them after presumably going into the bag during the course of their day. Additionally, [REDACTED] was told by [REDACTED] that Richardson was extremely nervous upon returning to the area where his backpack had been, and noting that it was now moved. [REDACTED] said that this also pointed to Richardson's knowledge that the backpack contained a gun. [REDACTED] was adamant that Richardson had to know that the weapon was in his bag, and that if this had been a student, severe consequences would have resulted. I explained to [REDACTED] that the information that I had obtained so far was from the emails that were sent to parents, and also from speaking with Wilkening. I told her that I would be collecting statements from others and also reviewing video, and that there was more investigation to be done.

I explained to [REDACTED] that I was hoping to speak with [REDACTED] directly about her observations. [REDACTED] asserted that she was unsure now about letting me speak to [REDACTED] if this was going to be excused as an accident. I tried once again to explain that I was simply trying to obtain as much information as possible about the incident, and that no decisions on whether or not this was an accident had been made. [REDACTED] then called [REDACTED] to the phone. I was able to determine from [REDACTED] that she is [REDACTED] at Milestone Democratic School, and that she had attended that school since December 2021 to the present. [REDACTED] told me that on June 1, 2022, she was out in the lobby area of the school that afternoon. [REDACTED] described a very festive scene as a mural was being painted while music was being played. [REDACTED] said that during one of her dance moves that included a kick, she struck a bag with her foot, injuring her toe, and chipping her toenail in the process. [REDACTED] said that the bag was hard and that she noticed that something had fallen out of the bag. She said that she saw a gun and loose bullets that were strewn on the floor. [REDACTED] said that she told a lady that was working on the mural about the gun and that the lady then encouraged [REDACTED] to not say anything about what she saw. [REDACTED] said that this muralist then put on gloves, picked up the gun and bullets, and put them back in the bag. [REDACTED] said that she thought that she should tell somebody about what she saw, so she went and whispered this information to Wilkening. [REDACTED] said that Wilkening then came out, picked up the bag, and then took it into Art's (Arthur Richardson) office nearby. [REDACTED] said that she believed that the muralist and Art were friends, and that also because Art is black as well as the muralist, that the muralist did not want [REDACTED] to get Art in trouble. [REDACTED] said that when Art returned to the

**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/06/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE (continuation)**

building and saw that his bag was not where he left it, he acted very nervous. This was the end of my contact with [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] then returned to the phone and began repeating that Art would have known that a gun was in his bag by all of his actions that day.

I did speak with [REDACTED] for an extended amount of time again. I told her that I understood her concerns as a parent, and that I would investigate the incident thoroughly.

DETECTIVE JOEL PETERSON #2962

04 DET PETERSON - VIDEO COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/06/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE****SUMMARY:**

Video collection and analysis

NARRATIVE:

On June 3, 2022, I was able to go to Milestone Democratic School in order to retrieve video evidence from them. Upon my arrival there, I met with Sean Anderson and Sarah Wilkening whom allowed me access to the DVR and advised that I could collect whatever video was necessary as needed.

I did review video from June 1, 2022 while on premise. The DVR was a VMax A1 Plus. I noted that the actual time was consistent with my department-issued cell phone, and is set to CDT atomic clock.

I reviewed video from 12:00 P.M to 5:00 P.M. while on scene. I retrieved video from 1:36 P.M. to 4:37 P.M. The video was placed into MPD Property as evidence under tag # 501792.

The following are my observations from the video. At approximately 1:37 P.M, a subject whom I believe to be Arthur Richardson brings his laptop and a backpack to the lobby area, and places the laptop on a chair nearest to the entrance door, and the backpack on the floor directly in front of the chair. The black backpack appears to be closed, or at least not obviously open when it is set there. Richardson sits in the chair and uses the laptop for the next several minutes until moving seats to a chair that is positioned along a wall that is opposite of the main desk in the front office area. The chair is positioned closer to the camera of the two chairs visible on that wall. As Richardson repositions to that area, he moves his bag with him. It appears as though he accesses the backpack perhaps to use a power cord with the laptop. The backpack is positioned on the floor, leaning against the side of the chair that he sits in. I cannot tell if the backpack is open or closed at this point. The time of this move is at 1:50 P.M. Richardson's shoes are visible as he comes and goes from that area until 2:36 P.M. when he can be seen walking out of the front doors of the building. The backpack remains on the floor at that time.

At 2:40 P.M., a subject whom I believe to be [REDACTED] sits down in the chair that had been occupied by Richardson. At 2:41:03, I can see that [REDACTED] is moving the backpack, but it remains resting against the chair that she is in. [REDACTED] then bends over while she is sitting, and appears to be looking more closely at the backpack. She then moves another chair over to her location, and appears to use it as a footrest. A subject whom I believe to be Adan Stefano Oviedo is positioned at the front desk directly in line with where the chair was moved to by [REDACTED]. There is routine movement from [REDACTED] while she is sitting in the chair toward the area where Richardson's backpack was previously located. At 2:51 P.M., [REDACTED] can be seen standing up briefly before sitting on the arm rest of the chair that she had pulled over as a footrest previously. [REDACTED] can be seen hunched over at the shoulders, and appears to be rocking back and forth while seated on the armrest. [REDACTED] then walks to 2 rooms that are closer to the entry doors, and returns to her seat at 2:53 P.M. A few moments later, a subject whom I believe to be Simone Lawrence walks toward the area of the backpack, and appears to look down at the area where the backpack was previously. She then walks away. I can't determine for sure because of Simone wearing a mask, but it appears that she and [REDACTED] are possibly conversing. [REDACTED] then walks away before a subject I know to be Sarah Wilkening returns to the area of where the backpack was located. Wilkening then retrieves the black backpack from the floor area next to the seat where Richardson and [REDACTED] had

**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/06/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE (continuation)**

been seated at 2:54 P.M. [REDACTED] then returns to the seat that she had been sitting in earlier and appears to be dancing next to the chair. She then removes her shoes, and puts her feet up on the chair in front of her. Richardson can then be seen returning to the building at 3:04 P.M. He walks over to the area where his backpack had been. At 3:06 P.M., Richardson recovers his laptop from near where he had been seated earlier. There is nothing else remarkable that occurs in the video, as it appears that it is normal business until the end of the school day.

Investigation continuing.

DETECTIVE JOEL PETERSON #2962

05 DET PETERSON - CONTACT WITH ADAN STEFANO OVIEDO**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/06/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE****SUMMARY:**

Contact with Adan Stefano Oviedo

NARRATIVE:

After review of video from Milestone Democratic School, I determined that a male that was present in the lobby area during most of the times that I reviewed in the video should be spoken to about his observations. I was able to speak with Sarah Wilkening, who told me that this individual was "Stefano." Wilkening provided me with a phone number of [REDACTED]

On June 6, 2022, I was able to speak with Stefano via telephone. He identified himself to me as Adan Stefano Oviedo. He said that he uses the middle name Stefano as his name to others. I explained to Oviedo that I was investigating the incident from last week involving the backpack with the gun in it. I told him that I had reviewed video, and had seen him in the front desk area for most of the time in the video that I reviewed. I asked him if he had made any observations in regard to [REDACTED] or the backpack that had the gun in it. Oviedo said that he had not noticed anything out of the ordinary, and that he just saw [REDACTED] hanging out in the lobby for a lengthy amount of time. I asked Oviedo if he had seen the gun or any of the contents of the bag. Oviedo said that he had not seen anything in the bag, and learned about the incident of the firearm being seen afterwards.

I asked Oviedo if he knew Arthur Richardson to normally be armed or if he knew that he had a Concealed Carry permit. Oviedo said that he did not know of either. I asked Oviedo if he knew Richardson to have any problems with anyone in the school or anyone affiliated with the school as a reason to possess a handgun. Oviedo said that he was not aware of anything like that.

I thanked Oviedo for his time and then ended my contact with him.

DETECTIVE JOEL PETERSON #2962

06 DET PETERSON - CONTACT WITH SIMONE LAWRENCE**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/08/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE****SUMMARY:**

Contact with Simone Lawrence

NARRATIVE:

On June 7, 2022, I was able to speak with Simone Lawrence via telephone. I had been provided with Lawrence's information by Sarah Wilkening at Milestone Democratic School. I could see from my video review that Lawrence had been present during the discovery of the backpack with the firearm inside of it. It appeared that Lawrence may have had conversation with [REDACTED] at the time of the discovery of the weapon, and I wanted to speak with Lawrence in order to hear her observations.

Lawrence said that she is contracted as a Muralist at the Milestone Democratic School. On the day in question, Lawrence said that she was in the lobby area of the school and working on a large wall mural with 2 or 3 other students during the afternoon hours. Lawrence said that another student, whose name she did not know, was also present in the lobby, but was not assisting with the mural painting. Lawrence mentioned that music was being played, and it appeared that this other student was hanging out in that area and listening to the music. Lawrence said that at some point this student, whom I will henceforth refer to as [REDACTED], made a statement to others in the lobby similar to 'There's a gun in Art's bag.' Lawrence said that the students who were assisting her initially gasped. Lawrence said that [REDACTED] then said that she did not want to touch what was in the bag, but then reached in and pulled out an ammunition clip with bullets in it. Lawrence said that [REDACTED] then returned the ammunition clip to the backpack, and then said that she was going to tell on Art to get him in trouble. Lawrence said that a few moments later, Sarah Wilkening came out to where the backpack was, and then removed it from that area, and into a locked office. Lawrence mentioned that once the backpack had been removed, things went back to normal very quickly, and it did not appear that the incident was particularly traumatic for any of the students. Lawrence advised that after the backpack had been removed, Art returned to the school from being outside. She said that Art was extremely remorseful for having forgotten that he had the firearm in his backpack after having gone on a trip to visit a friend over the prior weekend.

I asked Lawrence if it was clear to her how [REDACTED] would have seen the gun in the backpack. Lawrence said that she did not know, but it appeared that [REDACTED] would have been actively looking through the bag at the contents. I asked Lawrence if it was possible that the firearm or ammunition clip fell out of the bag at any point. She said that [REDACTED] had to pull the ammunition clip out of the bag, and then put it back inside. Lawrence said that she never saw a firearm in the bag when she looked at the bag. I asked Lawrence if she heard [REDACTED] make any claims of kicking the backpack and being injured. She said that [REDACTED] did not say anything similar to that. I asked Lawrence if she tried to dissuade [REDACTED] from telling staff about the contents of the backpack. She said that she definitely did not. Lawrence did not have any additional information that she thought was relevant to the situation.

I thanked Lawrence for her time and then ended my contact with her.

DETECTIVE JOEL PETERSON #2962

DET PETERSON - ATTEMPTED CONTACT WITH ARTHUR RICHARDSON**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/14/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE****SUMMARY:**

Attempted contact with Arthur Richardson

NARRATIVE:

On June 7, 2022, I began trying to get in touch with Arthur Richardson via telephone in order to arrange an interview with him. I called his cell phone several times that day as well as the following day, but did not receive a response. I was able to leave voicemails. I had spoken with Sarah Wilkening and Simone Lawrence previously who told me that they had also tried to reach out to Richardson after the incident on 6/1/22, but were unable to get in touch with him.

On June 8, I sent Richardson a text message in the morning that read: "Mr. Richardson, this is Detective Joel Peterson with the Madison Police Department. I have been trying to get in touch with you in order to have a phone conversation related to the incident from last week. I'm now reaching out to make sure that you are doing alright as it sounds as though several people have been unable to reach you since last week. Please let me know when you receive this text. You are not obligated to speak with me in regard to what happened last week, but just wanting to ensure that you are okay. Thank you." After not receiving a response to this text that morning, I asked for patrol to assist me in performing a welfare check at addresses that were associated with Richardson previously. P.O. William Needelmann checked both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. At the second location, P.O. Needelmann contacted Greta Drammeh, a former girlfriend of Richardson's. She repeatedly called Richardson's phone while P.O. Needelmann was present until he finally picked up. P.O. Needelmann was able to speak with Richardson, and pass along the message that I was looking to speak with him.

I then received a text back from Richardson that read: "Hello Detective Joel Peterson. I am ok and its my intention to cooperate. I am willing to be interviewed with a lawyer present. Thank you."

I responded: "Thank you for responding. Glad to hear you are okay. Do you have representation already, or is that something you'll be pursuing? I'm happy to work through your attorney to set up a time to meet."

Richardson responded: "I am in the process of securing representation."

I replied: "Sounds good. When appropriate, please give your attorney my desk #, [REDACTED] to get in touch. Thank you."

I received no response until 6/13/22 when I texted again, saying: "Hello sir. Were you able to secure an attorney yet? I am hoping to finalize this investigation soon, and wanted to reach out again for an update. Thank you."

Richardson replied: "I would like to end communication at this time. If you have any information you would like to share with me please send it to Get It Right Cooperative 202 Williamson St. STE 102 Madison, WI 53703."

Given this information, I will be closing this investigation. This situation does not meet the elements of a

**MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT**CASE# **2022-00209541****CASE REPORT SUPPLEMENT**

REPORTING OFFICER

JOEL PETERSON

REPORT DATE

06/14/2022**SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE (continuation)**

crime as it pertains to Wisconsin State Statute 948.605 Gun Free School Zones. That statute outlines that a person must knowingly possess a firearm at a school to be in violation of the statute. There is no information to suggest that Richardson knew the gun was left in his backpack after a trip that he had taken over the weekend prior. As a result, this investigation is complete, and considered closed.

DETECTIVE JOEL PETERSON #2962